

50148

Department of State

CABLE SECRETARIAT DISSEM BY

PER #

TOTAL COPIES: 35

TELEGRAM

FILE, RF

STAT

UNCLASSIFIED

HCF473

PAGE 01 GEORGE 01141 232023Z

88

ACTION ARA 18

INFO OCT 01, EUR 17, CIAE 00, DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00,
 NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, PRS 01, SS 20, USIA 12, IO 13, ACDA 16, RSR 01,
 AID 28, PC 04, /162 W

014462

P R 231715Z AUG 69
 FM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN
 TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3650
 INFO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
 AMEMBASSY CARACAS
 AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
 AMEMBASSY LONDON
 AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
 AMEMBASSY PARAMARIBO
 AMEMBASSY RIO DE JANEIRO
 USCINCSO
 USUN NEW YORK 397

UNCLAS GEORGETOWN 1141

SUBJECT: SURINAM/GUYANA BORDER DISPUTE

REF: GEORGETOWN 1139

1. GOG AUGUST 21 CONDUCTED PARTY LOCAL NEWSMEN TO OUTPOST PREVIOUSLY HELD BY SURINAM POLICE IN DISPUTED NEW RIVER TRIANGLE. AUGUST 22 GOG ISSUED PRESS RELEASE DESCRIBING WHAT NEWSMEN VIEWED. LOCAL PRESS CARRIED STORY PROMINENTLY, STRESSING POINT THAT OUTPOST ALLEGEDLY DEVELOPED INTO FORMIDABLE MILITARY COMPLEX CLEARLY NOT INTENDED FOR PEACEFUL PURPOSES. TEXT GOG RELEASE FOLLOWS.

2. QUOTE: THE CAMP BUILT BY SURINAM ARMED FORCES PERSONNEL ON GUYANA TERRITORY IN THE NEW RIVER TRIANGLE AND NOW OCCUPIED BY THE GUYANA DEFENCE FORCES IS AN ELABORATE MILITARY ENCAMPMENT CLEARLY CONSTRUCTED WITH HOSTILE INTENT. THIS WAS DISCLOSED BY THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION TODAY (AUGUST 22).

UNCLASSIFIED

Department of State**TELEGRAM**

CABLE SECRETARIAT DISSEM BY

PER #

TOTAL COPIES:

FILE, RF.

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 GEORGE 01141 232023Z

3. A PARTY OF LOCAL NEWSPAPER EDITORS AND RADIO STATION PRODUCTION MANAGERS WERE YESTERDAY (AUGUST 21) INVITED TO ACCOMPANY THE MINISTER WITHOUT PORTFOLIO, MR. HUBERT JACK, TO VISIT THE CAMP WHICH HAS NOW BEEN GIVEN THE NAME CAMP JAGUAR. THE NEWSMEN WERE GIVEN FULL OPPORTUNITY TO INSPECT THE CAMP AND EXAMINE MAPS AND DOCUMENTS LEFT BY THE FLEEING SURINAM FORCES.

4. DURING THE TOUR OF THE CAMP, THE COMMANDING OFFICER OF THE G.D.F. FORCES POINTED OUT THAT THE CAMP HAD BEEN CONSTRUCTED WITH GREAT CARE AS A MILITARY INSTALLATION AND DETERMINED DEFENDERS COULD HAVE PROVIDED VERY STIFF RESISTANCE.

5. THE CAMP IS LACED WITH UNDERGROUND BUNKERS SPECIALLY CONSTRUCTED TO PROTECT AGAINST SHELL OR MORTAR ATTACK AND WITH OVERHEAD TOWERS FOR MACHINE GUN EMPLACEMENTS. EVERYWHERE THERE ARE SIGNS OF MILITARY ACTIVITY BY THE FORMER SURINAM OCCUPIERS.

6. IT IS OBVIOUS THAT THE CAMP WAS NOT BUILT OR INTENDED TO BE USED AS AN AGRICULTURAL SETTLEMENT, NOR FOR ANY OTHER PEACEFUL PURPOSES.

7. THE MAPS CAPTURED FROM THE SURINAMERS AND SHOWN TO THE VISITING NEWSMEN REVEALED A PLAN TO OCCUPY THE ENTIRE NEW RIVER AREA WITH A SERIES OF MILITARY ENCAMPMENTS WITH CAMP JAGUAR SERVING AS BASE AND SUPPLY HEADQUARTERS.

8. JUDGING FROM THE PERSONAL EFFECTS LEFT IN THE WAKE OF THE FLEEING SURINAMERS AND THE OCCOMMODATION FACILITIES IN CAMP JAGUAR, IT IS ESTIMATED THAT THE SURINAM FORCE OCCUPYING THE CAMP NUMBERED IN THE REGION OF 50 TO 55 PERSONNEL. IN ADDITION TO A CATERPILLAR BULLDOZER AND A JEEP, THE SURINAMERS LEFT BEHIND AN ELECTRIC POWER PLANT, A MECHANICAL WATER PUMP, POWER HAND SAWS, A LARGE REFRIGERATOR AND A WELL-STOCKED KITCHEN. END QUOTE.
CARLSON

UNCLASSIFIED